(d) The Committee meets periodically to consider proposals from various sections of Society for revision of the rules and make suitable recommendations. The Government after consideration of the recommendations, takes suitable steps far reviewing the rules to safeguard the interests of consumers at large.

Rising prices of Edible Oils

795. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of the edible oils have been on the rise even after import of edible oils;

(b) if so, the details of the retail prices of the edible oils prevailing in the open market, in Kendriya Bhandar and Super Bazar, brand-wise in the last twelve months.

(c) the quantity of edible oils imported in the last twelve months and what mode was adopted in the sale thereof giving the prices at which it was imported and price at which the same was sold; and

(d) what benefit did the import of edible oil accrue to the people at large of the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) Due to the gap of over 5 lakh tonnes in the demand and supply of edible oils in the country, some rise in the prices of edible oils has been noted even after import of edible oils. The retail prices of major edible oils like mustard *oil* and groundnut oil at Super Bazar, Kendriya Bhandar and in the open markets are given at Annexure. (See Appendix 173, Annexure No. 12).

(c) Import of 1,07,013 MT of Palmolein was made by STC for the PDS during 1994-95 at CIF value of Rs. 188.94 crores. The oil was supplied States/UTs at Central Issue Price of Rs. 24,000 MT (in bulk) and Rs. 27,000 MT (in 15 Kg. tins).

(d) The imported palmolein is supplied to the people at below market price under the Public Distribution System and it has augmented the availability of edible oils in the country.

Policy to revamp existing PDS in backward areas

796. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a policy to revamp existing PDS in backward areas; and

(b) what defects have been noticed in the existing PDS system the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Revamped Public Distribution System was formally launched on 1-1-1992 for improving the reach of the Public Distribution System in the desert, drought-prone, hilly and tribal areas of the country, identified in consultation with the State Governments/ UT Administrations.

(b) In consultation with the State Governments, it was agreed that there was a need to improve the infrastructure for Public Distribution System by opening additional Fair Price Shops, issuing ration cards to the population not covered so far, hire/ construct additional godown capacity, introduce door-step delivery of PDC commodities to the Fair Price Shops and constitute Fair Price Shop Level Vigilance Committees consisting of consumers,. State Governments/UT Administrations also agreed to include additional items of. mass consumption such as tea, pulses, soaps

and iodised salt for distribution through PDS outlets in the Revamped Public Distribution System areas. The Central Government issues food-grains meant for distribution in RPDS areas is specially subsidised Cnetral issue Price which are Rs. 50/- per quintal lower than normal Central issue Prices.

खाद्यान्नों की बिक्री में राज्य सरकारों को मार्जिन बढ़ाने की अनुमति

797. **श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल:** क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा प्रायोजित योजना के अन्तर्गत आदिवासी क्षेत्रों के लिए पच्चीस रुपये प्रति क्विंटल की रियायती दर पर राज्यों को खाद्यान्न की आपूर्ति चार वर्ष पहले निर्धारित की गई थी ;

(ख) क्या कई राज्यों ने परिवहन प्रभारों और ढुलाई की दरों में वृद्धि को ध्यान में रखते हुए मार्जिन बढ़ाने का अनुरोध किया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा क्या निर्णय लिया गया है ?

नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह) (क) केन्द्रीय सरकार, राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को समन्वित आदिवासी विकास कार्यक्रम के तहत आने वाले क्षेत्रों सहित संपुष्ट सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अन्तर्गत लाए गए क्षेत्रों में वितरण, हेतु विशेष रूप से राज सहायता प्राप्त केन्द्रीय निर्गम मूल्य, पर जो सामान्य सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के क्षेत्रों के लिए केन्द्रीय निर्गम मूल्यों से 50/- रुपये प्रति क्विंटल कम होते हैं, खाद्यान्नों का थोक में आवंटन करती है। राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को सलाह दी गई है कि इन क्षेत्रों के लिए खाद्यान्नों के अन्तिम खुदरा मूल्य केन्द्रीय निर्गम मूल्यों से 25% रु० प्रति क्विंटल से अधिक नहीं होने चाहियें।

(ख) और (ग) जी हां। सरकार संपुष्ट सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली क्षेत्रों में वितरित किए जाने वाले खाद्यान्नों पर मार्जिन में वृद्धि करने के लिए सहमत नहीं हुई है, क्योंकि यह उपभोक्ताओं के हित में नहीं होगा।

State-wise delivery of commodities from PDS

798. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the state-wise delivery of wheat, rice, sugar, edible oils and other articles from the PDS in 1991. 1992, 1993 and 1994; and

(b) what has been the procurement and sale price per quintal of each of the articles in the above years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) State-wise allocation and and lifting of wheat, rice, sugar, edible oils during the years 1991, 1992, 1993 and 1994 are given in the Annexure. [See Appendix 173, Annexure No. 13]

(b) Procurement and sale price of the PDS articles during the years 1991, 1992, 1993 and 1994 is given in the statement at Annexure. [See Appendix 173. Annexure No. 14]